

**City of Brookings**  
**CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
City Hall Council Chambers, 898 Elk Drive, Brookings, OR 97415  
**Monday, February 24, 2014**

The City Council met in Executive Session at 6:00 PM, in the City Manager's Office, under authority of ORS 192.660.2.e, "to conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to negotiate real property transactions," and then under authority of ORS 192.660.2.d, "to conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to carry on labor negotiations."

**Call to Order**

Mayor Hedenskog called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

**Roll Call**

Council Present: Mayor Ron Hedenskog, Councilors Bill Hamilton, Brent Hodges, Jake Pieper and Kelly McClain; a quorum present.

Staff Present: City Manager Gary Milliman, Public Works & Development Director Loree Pryce, Public Safety Director Chris Wallace, Police Lieutenant Donny Dotson, Building Official LauraLee Snook, City Attorney Martha Rice and City Recorder Joyce Heffington.

Others Present: Pilot Reporter Jane Stebbins and five others.

**Ceremonies/Appointments/Announcements**

Mayor Hedenskog proclaimed the Council's support for the Brookings Harbor Community Helpers Food Bank and Tom Davis provided a history of the Food Bank and the Food Bank's need for volunteers and monetary support. Davis said the Food Bank needed to purchase 40-50 tons of food each year and that monetary support, more than food donations, was needed. The Food Bank, he said, is able to purchase food through local stores and federal and state sites for significantly less money than what it cost an individual to purchase single items to donate. Davis said people asking for food were not required to qualify, just have an address.

Councilor Pieper asked how much overall product the Food Bank purchased from the state and Davis said around 55-60%. Pieper then asked if the state's program was dwindling and Davis said the product line available to them was more limited.

**Scheduled Public Appearances**

County Commissioner David Itzen addressed elk issues at the Brookings Airport and the various methods the County was planning to use to deal with the growing problem, such as "hazing."

Mayor Hedenskog asked if hazing would be a temporary measure.

Itzen said it would and fencing was the only long term method of control. He said using existing fencing, where it was adequate, would bring the cost down to around \$250,000. Itzen said other temporary measures were to monitor the runway with a camera and have a deputy, when available, drive out and use their vehicle siren to scare the elk off, and getting a "kill" permit, but hazing, he said, was preferred until a fence could be erected.

Councilor McClain asked about using electrified fencing and Itzen said it would work but would be far more expensive. McClain then asked how many daily flights there were into the airport and Itzen said he didn't have the number, but there were daily flights for Fed Ex, UPS, and a bank, as well as frequent Cal-Ore flights.

### **Staff Reports**

#### *County request for City participation in Intergovernmental Partnerships Program.*

City Manager Milliman provided the staff report.

Commissioner Itzen said he was enthusiastic about the possibilities to improve relationships between the three cities and the county using the proposed facilitated process. To illustrate the need, Itzen referred to several statements made by Mayor Hedenskog as reported in a February 15, 2014 news article, which were generally as follows: the Commissioners had "held the development of the airport hostage in return for the Council's backing of the tax measure to support law enforcement for the County"; "the two male commissioners bully the lone female commissioner"; "Commissioner Itzen needed votes in the primary from people he has alienated;" and "the County Commissioners now need the Council's support, but did not feel that way a year ago." Itzen then asked the Council to "think about that for a moment."

Commissioner Itzen said it was possible the Mayor had been misquoted and Hedenskog said he was quoted correctly. "Then I suggest we have a deep problem that needs to be addressed," Itzen said.

Commissioner Itzen provided his perspective on Hedenskog's quoted statements, generally saying that the airport situation had been a business disagreement, that while there were disagreements between the Commissioners, Commissioner Brown was always treated with respect, and that he was not at the meeting to garner support but to invite participation in a process he believed was certain to improve the working relationship between the City and County to the benefit of all of their citizens. As a final example, Itzen referred to a recent meeting with an Oregon Solutions Regional Advisory Group representative at which, he said, Mayor Hedenskog had stated that Brookings had replaced Port Orford and Gold Beach as the "big dog on the block." This, Itzen said, implied that Brookings would determine the fate of everyone living in the County, even though the population of Brookings is 6,340 and the County's population is 23,360.

Mayor Hedenskog asked what the agenda of the proposed meeting would be and Itzen said it would follow the scope of work provided with the staff report and the second meeting could be expanded to include the full Council. Hedenskog then asked if the goal was have everyone sit around and "learn to sing a choir song" or actually deal with issues like tax revenues and Itzen said that they could possibly tackle the Sheriff's suggestion of a \$0.68 property tax and the issue of the airport joint management agreement.

Councilor McClain said City residents were also members of the County, and everyone pays County taxes, but city residents get pay twice. McClain said he sometimes felt that Itzen only represented the unincorporated area, which isn't the case. He said he thought the Council and Commissioners could get along without spending this money. McClain said he would be happy to have Smith and Itzen meet with the Council individually, as they had with Commissioner Brown, and that as far as getting along on a personal level they could go out to lunch or have a "beer summit." He then said that Itzen had drifted between a spirit of cooperation to throwing the Mayor "under the bus," during his speech. McClain said he had a lot of good feelings about the mayor, who wanted the best for the whole community. He said

it looked terrible to him, speaking as County citizen, to spend money to "get along better," especially considering the County's financial situation. McClain said he didn't feel right about spending money for this purpose or for making the city residents pay twice for County functions. McClain added that he wanted to have a good working relationship with all of his commissioners.

Councilor Pieper said he had not heard anything positive about this type of facilitated meeting from residents and the past summit held by the County and state officials, was, in his experience, "a laughing stock of this community." Pieper said he didn't want to have a "kumbaya" session; they should be able to talk and deal with issues without paying for it. He said he didn't feel there were any issues between the City and the County that couldn't easily be squared away or any indication that there was any ill will between them. The City, Pieper said, had dealt with the issues at face value, viewing them in terms of what was best for the City and the County, and hadn't done any politicking or back scratching, but couldn't say the same about the Commissioners.

Councilor Hodges said he thought some of the comments were meant to "poke," and there was clearly some animosity. He said he had a great respect for Itzen but, at this time, he didn't think it was a good idea to spend this money, even though it wasn't a lot. Hodges said a lot of the strife between the City and County was due to the tax levy and his recollection of the airport issue was that the County had said it was costly to run, and they lacked the staffing to manage it, and then, after the Council began communicating with the County about it, it seemed the County had held the tax levy over their heads, which wasn't right. Hodges said he would be in favor of holding workshops with each commissioner, one at a time, to get through the issues.

Councilor Hamilton said he thought it was a good scope of work, but he couldn't justify the expense. He said they were all intelligent people and he didn't believe they needed an outside facilitator to work out their issues. As public officials, Hamilton said, they were put in the position to help their constituents and he had full confidence in the Council and Commissioners. He then suggested they use City Manager Milliman's experience more in this regard as he thought he was one of the smartest City Managers he'd met and it was a disservice to spend the money for this purpose.

Mayor Hedenskog said he'd made statements in the paper and was maybe a little rash, but he thought a lot of the citizens in the community would agree with what he'd said. He said when a candidate runs for office the assumption is that "everyone can play well in the playground," but not everyone at the County can do that. Hedenskog said there were a great many people in the Brookings community and in the County who think there's been a failure by the County to play well together and the Commissioners needed to work that out. The City, he said, had not failed to communicate its positions on all County issues brought before them and it would continue to do so in the future and the citizens he'd talked with were unanimous about not wanting the City to spend money to correct problems between the City and County.

Commissioner Itzen said he respected the Council's position, but felt that not doing this would be an opportunity lost. He said he wanted to move forward in whatever way they could and their disagreements had been honest disagreements. He said in any Council or Commission, the majority rules; that is how the system works and they would consider any proposal the City might put forward. Itzen said that there was no need for individual meetings between the Commissioners and the Council; any such meeting should be with the full commission.

## **Ordinances/Resolutions**

*Ordinance amending Brookings Municipal Code Chapter 13.10, Sewer Use Regulations.*

Building Official Snook gave the staff report.

Councilor Hodges asked if the City would require a property owner installing a clean-out to perform a TV of the line from the clean-out into the main and Snook said the City would only take over from the clean out to the main after a "good" inspection.

**Councilor Hodges moved, a second followed and Council voted unanimously to do a first reading of Ordinance 14-O-725 by title only.**

Mayor Hedenskog read the title.

**Councilor Hodges moved, a second followed and Council voted unanimously to do a second reading of Ordinance 14-O-725 by title only.**

Mayor Hedenskog read the title.

**Councilor Pieper moved, a second followed and Council voted unanimously to adopt Ordinance 14-O-725, amending BMC Chapter 13.10, Sewer Use Regulations].**

*Ordinance amending Brookings Municipal Code Section 8.15.020, Control of Domestic Animals.*

Chief Wallace presented the staff report.

**Councilor Hodges moved, a second followed and Council voted unanimously to do a first reading of Ordinance 14-O-729 by title only.**

Mayor Hedenskog read the title.

**Councilor Hamilton moved, a second followed and Council voted unanimously to do a second reading of Ordinance 14-O-729 by title only.**

Mayor Hedenskog read the title.

**Councilor Hodges moved, a second followed and Council voted unanimously to adopt Ordinance 14-O-729, [amending BMC Section 8.15.020, Control of Domestic Animals].**

*Ordinance repealing Brookings Municipal Code Chapter 9.15, Tobacco Sales.*

City Manager Milliman gave the staff report.

**Councilor Hodges moved, a second followed and Council voted unanimously to do a first reading of Ordinance 14-O-728 by title only.**

Mayor Hedenskog read the title.

**Councilor Hodges moved, a second followed and Council voted unanimously to do a second reading of Ordinance 14-O-728 by title only.**

Mayor Hedenskog read the title.

**Councilor Pieper moved, a second followed and Council voted unanimously to adopt Ordinance 14-O-728, [repealing BMC Chapter 9.15, Tobacco Sales].**

*Resolution updating the Master Fee Schedule and repealing Resolution 12-R-993.*

City Manager Milliman provided the staff report.

Councilor McClain asked about the Home Occupation Fee and Milliman said this was for someone who wanted to conduct a business out of their home.

Councilor Hamilton asked why the fee for 1" and 1-1/2" Meter Drop-in Connection Fee were the same and City Recorder Heffington said this was a scrivener's error and the corrected fees were included in the red-line included in the agenda packet.

**Councilor Hodges moved, a second followed and Council voted unanimously to adopt Resolution 14-R-1026, updating the Master Fee Schedule and repealing Resolution 12-R-993.**

**Consent Calendar**

1. Approve Council minutes for February 10, 2014.
2. Approve Liquor License Application for Oxenfrē Public House, 631 Chetco Avenue.
3. Receive January 2014 monthly financial report.

**Councilor Pieper moved, a second followed and Council voted unanimously to approve the Consent Calendar as written.**

**Remarks from Mayor and Councilors**

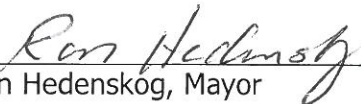
Mayor Hedenskog remarked that it was good to have Councilor Hamilton back after his health issues, and remarking on the Dave Gordon's family health issues, said "Our thoughts and prayers are with the Gordon family."

Councilor Hamilton said it was a challenge involving high blood pressure, but he now has a pacemaker installed and was improving rapidly.

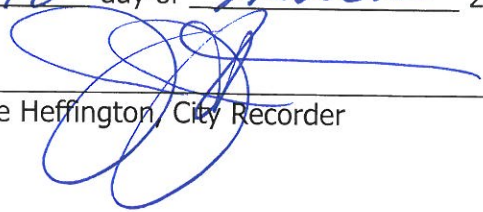
**Adjournment**

Mayor Hedenskog moved, a second followed and Council voted unanimously to adjourn by voice vote at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

  
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Ron Hedenskog, Mayor

ATTESTED:  
this 12<sup>th</sup> day of March 2014:

  
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Joyce Heffington, City Recorder